

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for consideration of sec. 3136 of the House bill and sec. 1613 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. LUCAS, KNIGHT, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

From the Committee on Small Business, for consideration of secs. 831–34, 839, 840, 842–46, 854, and 871 of the House bill and secs. 828, 831, 882, 883, and 885 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CHABOT, HANNA, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of secs. 302, 562, 569, 570a, 591, 1060a, 1073, 2811, and 3501 of the House bill and secs. 601, 642, 1613, 3504, and 3505, of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GRAVES of Louisiana, CURBELO of Florida, and Ms. EDWARDS.

From the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for consideration of secs. 565, 566, 592, 652, 701, 721, 722, 1105, and 1431 of the House bill and secs. 539, 605, 633, 719, 1083, 1084, 1089, 1091, and 1411 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. ROE of Tennessee, BILIRAKIS, and Ms. BROWN of Florida.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2620. An act to amend the United States Cotton Futures Act to exclude certain cotton futures contracts from coverage under such Act.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 6. An act to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2647. An act to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5. An act to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2209. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "S-metolachlor; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9927-85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2210. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Larry O. Spencer, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2211. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2014 Section 45K(d)(2)(C) Reference Price" (Notice 2015-45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2212. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report prepared by the Department of State on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period February 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2213. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permit Program Revision; Pennsylvania" (FRL No. 9930-30-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2214. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Determination of Attainment of the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Standard for the Liberty-Clairton Nonattainment Area" (FRL No. 9930-23-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2215. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Kansas; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 9926-48-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2216. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9929-58-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2217. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California SIP, Ventura and Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control Districts; Permit Exemptions" (FRL No. 9929-64-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2218. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9929-60-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2219. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Preconstruction Requirements—Nonattainment New Source Review" (FRL No. 9930-31-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2220. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Johnstown Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual and 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9930-24-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2221. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Findings of Failure to Submit a Section 110 State Implementation Plan for Interstate Transport for the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone" (FRL No. 9930-25-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2222. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Low Emissions Vehicle Program Revisions" (FRL No. 9930-35-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2223. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry and Standards of Performance for Portland Cement Plants" (FRL No. 9927-62-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2224. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Revisions to the Particulate Matter Less than 2.5 Micrometers (PM_{2.5}) Prevention of Significant

Deterioration (PSD) Permitting Program State Implementation Plan (SIP)” (FRL No. 9930-27-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2225. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Arizona; Infrastructure Requirements for Lead and Ozone” (FRL No. 9930-28-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2226. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Feather River Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9927-76-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2227. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Butte County Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 9928-50-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2228. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): Revisions to Manifesting Regulations; Item Number” (FRL No. 9929-92-OSWER) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2229. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Mineral Wool Production and Wool Fiberglass Manufacturing” ((RIN2060-AQ90) (FRL No. 9928-71-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2230. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modification of Significant New Uses of Certain Chemical Substances” ((RIN2070-AB27) (FRL No. 9928-93)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2231. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Kansas; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference” (FRL No. 9926-48-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2232. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Nebraska; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference” (FRL No. 9926-49-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2233. A communication from the Deputy Director, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program: Addition of Intussusception as Injury for Rotavirus Vaccines to the Vaccine Injury Table” (RIN0906-AB00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2234. A communication from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Partitions of Eligible Multiemployer Plans” (RIN1212-AB29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2235. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0485)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2236. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Board’s 2015 Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act inventory; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2237. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Certification of Fiscal Year 2015 Total Local Source General Fund Revenue Estimate (Net of Dedicated Taxes) in Support of the District’s Issuance of General Obligation Bonds (Series 2015A and 2015B)” to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2238. A communication from the Staff Director, U.S. Sentencing Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2014 Annual Report and Sourcebook of Federal Sentencing Statistics; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2239. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Accessible Emergency Information, and Apparatus Requirements for Emergency Information and Video Description” (MB Docket No. 12-107, FCC 15-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2240. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, United States Anti-Doping Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency’s 2014 annual report and Independent Auditor’s reports and financial statements for 2014 and 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2241. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives;

Learjet Inc. Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0249)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2242. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Avidyne Corporation Integrated Flight Displays” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-2191)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2243. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0618)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2244. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0585)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2245. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. (Agusta) Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-2119)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2246. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; Tribune, KS” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-0744)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2247. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; Tucumari, NM” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-0902)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2248. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment to the Titles of Restricted Areas R-5301, R-5302A, R-5302B, and R-5302C; North Carolina” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-1862)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2249. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Removal of Pilot Pairing Requirement” ((RIN2120-AK68) (Docket No. FAA-2015-2129)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2250. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Applications for Licenses, Permits, and Safety Approvals" ((RIN2120-AK58) (Docket No. FAA-2015-1745)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-45. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to designate Grambling State University as a United States Department of Agriculture 1890 land-grant institution; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 141

Whereas, a land-grant college or university is a postsecondary education institution that has been designated to receive the benefits of the federal Morrill Acts of 1862 or 1890; and

Whereas, there is at least one land-grant institution in every state and territory of the United States, as well as the District of Columbia, and over the years, land-grant status has been associated with several types of federal support; and

Whereas, two universities in this state, Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (LSU) and Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (SU), are designated as land-grant institutions; LSU received this designation in 1862, and in 1890, what is known as the Second Morrill Act conferred land-grant status to several historically black colleges and universities, commonly referred to as "1890 land-grant institutions", and SU is among this group; and

Whereas, Grambling State University, located in Grambling, Louisiana, is seeking designation as an 1890 land-grant institution under the banner of the Second Morrill Act; and

Whereas, Grambling State University was founded in 1901 by the North Louisiana Colored Agriculture Relief Association; in 1905, it moved to its present location and was renamed the North Louisiana Agricultural and Industrial School; in 1946, it became Grambling College; and in 1949, it earned its first accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and

Whereas, in 1974, the school began to offer graduate programs in early childhood and elementary education and acquired the name Grambling State University; over the years, several new academic programs have been incorporated and new facilities added to the 384-acre campus; and

Whereas, Grambling now offers more than eight hundred courses and forty-seven degree programs in five colleges, including an honors college, two professional schools, a graduate school, and a Division of Continuing Education; and

Whereas, Grambling combines the academic strengths of a major university with the benefits of a small college, and its students grow and learn in a serene and positive environment; and

Whereas, in addition to being one of the country's top producers of African-American graduates, Grambling is home to the internationally renowned Tiger Marching Band and remains proud of the legacy of the late

Eddie Robinson, Sr., a truly legendary football coach; and

Whereas, Grambling places an emphasis on the value and importance of each student, which is exemplified by its motto, "Where Everybody is Somebody"; and

Whereas, after more than a decade since its founding, Grambling remains an important influence in the quality of lives and communities of generations of North Louisiana residents; and

Whereas, the designation of Ohio's Central State University as an 1890 land-grant institution in the 2014 Farm Bill set a very recent precedent for the addition of a university to the land-grant system; and

Whereas, the nation's system of land-grant institutions would be strengthened by the inclusion of Grambling State University; and

Whereas, as a historically black university with a strong record of academics, research, and service, Grambling, with its rich history and traditions, would bring a unique perspective to the land-grant system; and

Whereas, for one hundred twenty-five years, the 1890 land-grant institutions have played a vital role in ensuring access to higher education and opportunity for underserved communities, and as such an institution, Grambling would have access to increased resources that it could direct to serving such communities and to providing research, extension, and public services in North Louisiana, an area where these services are not currently being provided sufficiently; and

Whereas, such designation would be consistent with Grambling's agricultural origins and its mission and history of service to African-American students and the people of Louisiana and would strengthen Grambling's research and teaching in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs and enhance existing programs and facilitate the development of new programs in agricultural business, biotechnology, economics, environment and natural resources, family and consumer science, and engineering technology; and

Whereas, Grambling State University has made the same extraordinary contributions to the education of African Americans in the state of Louisiana as other 1890 land-grant universities have made in their respective states; and

Whereas, as the only Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in the University of Louisiana System, the role that Grambling plays in the state is critical; and

Whereas, a land-grant designation would enhance greatly Grambling's service to the people of Louisiana, and it is appropriate that Congress take all necessary measures to grant such designation to Grambling State University: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to designate Grambling State University as a United States Department of Agriculture 1890 land-grant institution; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-46. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take action against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in Louisiana's sovereign waters by passing H.R. 774, the Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

Whereas, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing is a global problem with serious economic, environmental, and security implications; and

Whereas, illegal fishing accounts for economic losses of up to billions of dollars per year nationally and such activity is largely conducted by foreign fleets at the expense of United States fishermen, coastal communities, and the sustainability of global fish stocks; and

Whereas, illegal fishing is of particular consequence in Louisiana, where the Gulf Coast waters supply seafood for the citizens of the United States and support the hospitality industry, tourism-related businesses, and the vibrant recreational and commercial fishing industry; and

Whereas, not only does illegal fishing result in economic losses to the Louisiana fishing industry and other coastal businesses, but it also is a threat to the sustainability of our fisheries and to the Louisiana Gulf Coast ecosystem; and

Whereas, the United States Coast Guard is to be commended for apprehending and investigating foreign vessels engaged in illegal activity along the U.S.-Mexico border, often patrolling the Gulf of Mexico in a cat-and-mouse game specifically with Mexican fishermen who are fishing illegally; and

Whereas, illegal fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico compete for local fish stock and disregard state and federal laws on catch limits, or of marine species including marine mammals and sea turtles that are indiscriminately killed by the use of illegal long-line netting, and where some of the illegally caught fish is exported back into the U.S. and flood the market; and

Whereas, vessels involved with illegal fishing are also associated with other crimes, including drug trafficking, human trafficking, and illegal immigration, and the incursion by these foreign fishing vessels into U.S. waters constitutes a violation of our sovereignty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to take action against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in our sovereign waters by passing H.R. 774, the Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana hereby expresses its commitment to the elimination of illegal fishing, to the long-term conservation of Louisiana marine resources, and to the protection of the Louisiana Gulf Coast fishing and coastal communities; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-47. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Louisiana commending the United States Congress on the passage of bipartisan legislation to permanently set the payment amounts that Medicare pays for physician services, known as the doc fix; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

Whereas, the term "doc fix" refers to the formula the federal government uses to pay physicians who treat patients covered by Medicare, who pay less than they would otherwise to see a physician and the federal government makes up the difference and pays the physician an amount determined by Congress; and

Whereas, in 1997, Congress cut payments to physicians who treat patients enrolled in